

From: Sammy Dadds
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 12/3/01 10:17pm
Subject: Microsoft class action suit and DOJ settlement

To whom it may concern:

Class-action suit.

It seems in the class-action suit that Microsoft is really getting rewarded if it is allowed to put any of its software or related products into any of the school systems. Sure, the schools would benefit but students that use Microsoft's OS and products at school will certainly lean towards the same when not at school. This would give Microsoft a built in up and coming client base and further extend its monopoly.

A true punishment for Microsoft and even greater benefit for the schools would certainly be to have Microsoft provide all monies for hardware and competitors software. Apple, Mandrake, RedHat and many other software companies would surely provide a wealth of free or low cost software for the cause.

DOJ settlement.

Since Microsoft will not be split into two companies why is there no provision to keep all operating system (OS) code separate from the application code. This is the major problem. As Microsoft prepares new features for the OS the applications are immediately prepared to take advantage of the features. Competitors (me) are not able to even start building applications until Microsoft releases an approved Application Programming Interface (API) (which does not include everything Microsoft is using) for the new features. This keeps competitors completely in the dark. Could Microsoft applications be made to wait before being able to develop for the new features? Maybe the panel of experts could look for this. The latest example is Microsoft Office XP being released months before Windows XP OS was released.

Microsoft is a monopoly and has won this battle. I think the DOJ did the best they could under today's circumstances. I however, am feverishly working with other OS's and developer tools to help equal the

balance of power. Same thing when I vote, I like
equal amounts of Democrats and Republicans.

Sincerely,

Samuel F. Dadds III

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